

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A machine tool accessory including a shank for releasably attaching the accessory to a spindle of a machine tool, the shank being attachable to the spindle in a plurality of orientations and having electrical contacts for electrical communication with complementary electrical contacts at the spindle, the accessory further including a circuit for determining the orientation of the contacts of the shank relative to complementary contacts at the spindle.

2. (Original) A machine tool accessory as claimed in claim 1 wherein the spindle is rotatable about an axis and wherein the shank of the accessory is attachable to the spindle in any orientation about the axis.

3. (Original) A machine tool accessory as claimed in claim 2 wherein the number of contacts at the shank is greater than the number of complementary contacts at the spindle.

4. (Currently Amended) A machine tool accessory as claimed in ~~any one preceding claim~~claim 1 wherein the circuit comprises a plurality of multi-way switches, switchable to route a contact appropriately.

5. (Original) A machine tool accessory as claimed in claim 4 wherein the circuit includes a voltage or current detection device for detecting the presence of voltage across the

contacts or for detecting current flowing through the contacts and for causing the appropriate switching of the switches.

6. (Currently Amended) A machine tool accessory as claimed in claim 4 ~~or 5~~ wherein the circuit is operable to detect impedance across the complementary contacts.

7. (Currently Amended) A machine tool accessory as claimed in ~~any one preceding claim~~claim 1 wherein the contacts provide a route for power and signal to/from the accessory.

8. (Currently Amended) A machine tool accessory as claimed in ~~any one preceding claim~~claim 1 wherein the circuit is powered by a power supply from the contacts.

9. (Currently Amended) A machine tool accessory as claimed in ~~any one preceding claim~~claim 1 wherein the contacts comprise at least three contacts.

10. (Currently Amended) A machine tool accessory as claimed in ~~any one preceding claim~~claim 1 wherein the shank comprises a male taper and the contacts are disposed on or adjacent the taper.

11. (Original) A machine tool comprising a stationary part;
a rotatable spindle;
and a machine tool accessory having a shank;
the spindle having a shank receiving area for releasably accepting in a plurality of orientations the shank of the machine tool accessory;

the machine tool further comprising a first electrical link between the stationary part and the spindle and a second electrical link between the spindle and the shank in the form of a plurality of electrical contacts at the shank and a plurality of complementary electrical contacts at the shank receiving area of the spindle, the contacts being arranged such that each is connectable to any one of the complementary contacts.

12. (Currently Amended) A machine tool as claimed in claim 10 wherein the ~~accessory is as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 9~~ shank for releasably attaching the accessory to a spindle of a machine tool, the shank being attachable to the spindle in a plurality of orientations and having electrical contacts for electrical communication with complementary electrical contacts at the spindle, the accessory further including a circuit for determining the orientation of the contacts of the shank relative to complementary contacts at the spindle.

13. (Original) A machine tool as claimed in claim 12 wherein a liquid seal is provided between the shank and the spindle.